

PATENT 4001-1199

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Karl LUBITZ et al.

Conf. 3135

Application No. 10/527,158 Group 2834

Filed March 9, 2005

Examiner D. Rosenau

CERAMIC ELEMENT COMPRISING A HOMOGENOUS CERAMIC LAYER AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SAID CERAMIC ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the cited documents are made of record on the enclosed PTO Form-1449.

As the USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and patent publication for applications filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of the cited U.S. reference is not enclosed, as the present application is filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the European Patent Office in the corresponding European Application.

37 CFR 1.97(e), the Under the provisions of undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information

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contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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January 11, 2007

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^{*} Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience